

expire in the not-too-distant future. We think both for our economy and for the private sector's growth we need to pass that. And, of course, we want to complete the appropriations bills before the end of the fiscal year.

Lastly, let me say, Mr. Speaker, we will celebrate next week the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. And we will celebrate this summer with that which is being called Freedom Summer to celebrate that move towards a freer and more just nation. We are very hopeful that we can pass in the not-too-distant-future the Voting Rights Amendment Act, which will deal with ensuring that all people in our country not only have the right to vote but have access to voting and are facilitated in casting their vote.

Again, we don't need to debate those issues, but I did want to set them forth, Mr. Speaker, because this is our last colloquy before our July Fourth break.

Again, I want to close, unless the gentleman wants to say something, with thanks to Mr. CANTOR for his service and for his working together when we saw that as possible, and when we disagreed to disagree as coworkers on behalf of this country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2014

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday, June 23, 2014, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

RECOGNIZING ALLEGHENY WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT NEEDS (WINS) COALITION

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Allegheny Watershed Improvement Needs WINS Coalition. This is a group of local, State, and Federal Government agencies, and local leaders of various nonprofit organizations, that promotes ecological health of watersheds and habitats in and around the Allegheny National Forest.

Last month, Allegheny WINS was recognized by the U.S. Forest Service with the Rise to the Future Award for their work in the ANF. The Rise to the Future Award was created by the Forest Service to help enhance fisheries and watersheds on national forests. The award acknowledges collaborative work in areas such as soils management and aquatic restoration.

The Allegheny WINS Coalition was recognized for amassing \$4.8 million in external funding to the ANF and providing more than 5,000 volunteer days toward ANF projects. Overall, the coalition reached over 10,000 students through more than 50 environmental education and outreach events.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Allegheny WINS for their creative work to help keep our forests vibrant and healthy. This group of local partners is a model for our national forest system, and they should be praised for their leadership.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE MEANS SAFER COMMUNITIES

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, as U.S. oil production continues to grow, the increased burden of moving these resources is falling upon our Nation's railways. In 2013, American railroads shipped more than 400,000 carloads of crude oil by rail, compared to under 10,000 just 6 years ago.

Increasing the amount of oil being transported has left communities like those I represent in danger of potential accidents. Increased domestic energy production remains a critical part of a strategy to decrease energy costs and reduce our dependency on foreign oil. We must not, however, wait for another accident to take preventative measures.

We need the infrastructure and protections to safely transport these resources across our country. Recent steps to ensure the safety of crude oil transportation through our communities are an improvement, but more can be done. Building the Keystone pipeline will help to safely move resources.

Our Nation is blessed with vast energy potential. We can safely and responsibly take advantage of these resources, and I look forward to working with all involved to making transportation safer for communities in our district and across our Nation.

CONGRATULATING COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR MARK A. MATHIS ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. ARMY

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Command Sergeant Major Mark A. Mathis on his retirement after 30 years of service to our Nation in the U.S. Army.

Command Sergeant Major Mathis was born in Alton in 1963 and grew up in the small town of Dorchester in Macoupin County in central Illinois. He entered the Army in September of

1984 and is currently serving as the command sergeant major for the 902nd Military Intelligence Group in Fort Meade, Maryland.

He has had a multitude of assignments throughout his 30-year military career, including his deployment to Iraq with the 82nd Airborne Division.

Command Sergeant Major Mathis' awards and badges include the Bronze Star Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and many others.

Mr. Speaker, Command Sergeant Major Mark A. Mathis represents the best our country has to offer. His experience and leadership will be greatly missed.

Command Sergeant Major Mathis, thank you for your service to our country, and congratulations on your well-earned retirement.

RETAIN THE U-2 AIRCRAFT PLATFORM

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the good work of the Defense Appropriations Committee in retaining the U-2 aircraft platform, which is based in northern California's Beale Air Force Base, where 1,000 personnel from Nevada, Yuba, Placer, Sierra, Sutter, and other nearby counties work to ensure that our troops have the most timely and accurate intelligence possible.

As the commander of U.S. forces in Korea recently testified, the U-2 provides intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance—ISR—capabilities that do not currently exist in any other platform.

The committee recognized that, while the Global Hawk and unmanned aircraft, in general, bring a number of new and future capabilities to the fight and to the ISR mission, the Global Hawk serves as a complement to the U-2, not as a rival.

While I understand the fiscal constraints that the Air Force is under, I am pleased to see that the Appropriations bill directs the Secretary of the Air Force to present a plan to the committee before taking any action to retire the U-2 fleet.

The capabilities gap that would occur in ISR mission should the U-2 be graveyarded would be both immediate and be felt for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, we need to retain this aircraft for our security.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY OF LITTLE RIVER ACADEMY POLICE CHIEF LEE DIXON

(Mr. CARTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)